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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/786,752	02/25/2004	Christopher E. Bales	BEAS-01373US0	2980
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EXAMINER KEATON, SHERROD L				
ART UNIT 2175		PAPER NUMBER		
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/786,752

Applicant(s)

BALES ET AL.

Examiner

Sherrod Keaton

Art Unit

2175

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 March 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-64 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-64 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SI/02)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to the RCE filing on 3-25-08. Claims 1-64 are pending and have been considered below:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

1. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

The claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1-31 disclose a "interactive tool user interface" which is software and does not fall within at least one of the four categories of patent eligible subject matter recited in 35 U.S.C. 101 (process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 12-18, 24, 27-33, 39, 40, 43-49, 55, 56, 59-64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anuff et al. ("Anuff", US 2002/0029296 A1) in view of Gonzales (US 20020161603 A1).

Claims 1, 32 and 48: Anuff discloses an interactive tool, method and machine readable medium for configuring a portal, comprising:

- a.) a first user interface operable to define and/or manage the portal (Page 1, Paragraph 6);
- b.) a second user interface operable to define and/or manage entitlements for at least one portal resource (Page 1, Paragraph 7);
- c.) wherein the portal can include at least one of the following portal resources: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, and a layout (Page 1, Column 7), (Page 4, Paragraph 66); and
- d.) wherein the first user interface includes a context-sensitive editor (Page 4, Column 63-64).

But Anuff does not explicitly disclose wherein the second user interface is adapted to create roles the second interface including a hierarchy pane that allows for the selection of a role and an editor pane that allows for the creation of a new role which is added to the hierarchy pane under the selected role. However Gonzales discloses a content

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manager and further discloses a user interface which allows for the creation of roles which can be added into navigational hierarchy (Page 2, Paragraph 36 and Page 5, Paragraph 92). Here administrator provides roles for sections within the hierarchy. Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide creation of in roles in Anuff as taught by Gonzales. One would have been motivated to add roles to provide improved operability of the system wherein administrator could provide certain accesses to multiple users.

Claims 2, 33, and 49: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool, method and machine readable medium for configuring a portal as in claims 1, 32, and 48 above and further discloses that at least one user interface operable to define and/or manage one of: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a theme, a menu, a look and feel, and a layout (Anuff: Page 1, Column 7; Page 4, Paragraph 66).

Claims 8, 39, and 55: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool, method and machine readable medium for configuring a portal as in claims 1, 32, and 48 above and further discloses an entitlement determines what capabilities are available to a portal visitor for the at least one resources (Anuff: Page 5, Paragraph 76).

Claims 9, 40, and 56: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool, method and machine readable medium for configuring a portal as in claims 1, 32, and 48 above and

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further discloses that the entitlement is based on a user role (Anuff: Page 2 and 3, Paragraph 26).

Claims 12, 43, and 59: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool, method and machine readable medium for configuring a portal as in claims 1, 32, and 48 above and further discloses that a portlet can dynamically present content (Anuff: Page 2, Paragraph 26; Page 3, Paragraph 51).

Claims 13, 44, and 60: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool, method and machine readable medium for configuring a portal as in claims 1, 32, and 48 above and further discloses a fourth user interface operable to define and/or manage personalization of the portal (Anuff: Page 3, Paragraph 51; Page 4, Paragraph 56).

Claims 14, 45, and 61: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool, method and machine readable medium for configuring a portal as in claim 13 above and further discloses that the fourth user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content placeholder (Anuff: Pages 4 and 5, Paragraph 55, 65-72).

Claims 15, 46, and 62: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool, method and machine readable medium for configuring a portal as in claim 13 above and further

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discloses that the fourth user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content selector (Anuff: Page 4, Paragraph 56).

Claims 16, 47, and 63: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool, method and machine readable medium for configuring a portal as in claims 1, 32, and 48 above and further discloses that a fifth user interface operable to define and/or manage delegated administration (Anuff: Page 5, Paragraph 73-79).

Claim 17: Anuff discloses an interactive tool for configuring a portal, comprising:

- a.) a first user interface operable to define and/or manage the portal (Page 1, Paragraph 6);
- b.) a second user interface operable to define and/or manage entitlements for at least one portal resource (Page 1, Paragraph 7);
- c.) wherein the portal can include at least one of the following portal resources: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, and a layout (Page 1, Column 7), (Page 4, Paragraph 66); and
- d.) wherein an entitlement determines what capabilities are available to a portal visitor for the at least one resources (Page 5, Paragraph 76);
- e.) wherein the first user interface includes a context-sensitive editor (Page 4, Column 63-64).

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But Anuff does not explicitly disclose wherein the second user interface is adapted to create roles the second interface including a hierarchy pane that allows for the selection of a role and an editor pane that allows for the creation of a new role which is added to the hierarchy pane under the selected role. However Gonzales discloses a content manager and further discloses a user interface which allows for the creation of roles which can be added into navigational hierarchy (Page 2, Paragraph 36 and Page 5, Paragraph 92). Here administrator provides roles for sections within the hierarchy. Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to provide creation of in roles in Anuff as taught by Gonzales. One would have been motivated to add roles to provide improved operability of the system wherein administrator could provide certain accesses to multiple users.

Claim 18: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool for configuring a portal as in claim 17 above and further discloses that at least one user interface operable to define and/or manage one of: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a theme, a menu, a look and feel, and a layout (Anuff: Page 1, Column 7; Page 4, Paragraph 66).

Claim 24: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool for configuring a portal as in claim 17 above and further discloses that the entitlement is based on a user role (Anuff: Page 2 and 3, Paragraph 26).

Claim 27: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool for configuring a portal as in claim 17 above and further discloses that a portlet can dynamically present content (Anuff: Page 2, Paragraph 26; Page 3, Paragraph 51).

Claim 28: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool for configuring a portal as in claim 17 above and further discloses a fourth user interface operable to define and/or manage personalization of the portal (Anuff: Page 3, Paragraph 51; Page 4, Paragraph 56).

Claim 29: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool for configuring a portal as in claim 28 above and further discloses that the fourth user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content placeholder (Anuff: Pages 4 and 5, Paragraph 55, 65-72).

Claim 30: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool for configuring a portal as in claim 28 above and further discloses that the fourth user interface is operable to define and/or manage a content selector (Anuff: Page 4, Paragraph 56).

Claim 31: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool for configuring a portal as in claim 17 above and further discloses that a fifth user interface operable to define and/or manage delegated administration (Anuff: Page 5, Paragraph 73-79).

Claim 64: Anuff discloses a computer readable storage medium comprising:

- a.) a code segment including instructions to provide a first user interface operable to define and/or manage the portal (Page 1, Paragraph 6);
- b.) a code segment including instructions to provide a second user interface operable to define and/or manage entitlements for at least one portal resource (Page 1, Paragraph 7); and
- c.) wherein the portal can include at least one of the following portal resources: a desktop, a book, a page, a portlet, a shell, a look and feel, and a layout (Page 1, Column 7), (Page 4, Paragraph 66).

But Anuff does not explicitly disclose wherein the second user interface is adapted to create roles the second interface including a hierarchy pane that allows for the selection of a role and an editor pane that allows for the creation of a new role which is added to the hierarchy pane under the selected role. However Gonzales discloses a content manager and further discloses a user interface which allows for the creation of roles which can be added into navigational hierarchy (Page 2, Paragraph 36 and Page 5, Paragraph 92). Here administrator provides roles for sections within the hierarchy. Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time

of the invention to provide creation of in roles in Anuff as taught by Gonzales. One would have been motivated to add roles to provide improved operability of the system wherein administrator could provide certain accesses to multiple users.

4. Claims 3-5, 10, 19-21, 25, 34-36, 41, 50-52, and 57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anuff et al. ("Anuff", US 2002/0029296 A1) and Gonzales (US 20020161603 A1) as applied to Claim 1, 32 and 48 above in further view of Sollenberger et al. ("Sollenberger", US 2002/0152279 A1).

Claims 3, 34, and 50: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool, method, and a computer readable medium as in the interactive tool of claims 1, 32 and 48 above but do not specifically disclose a desktop that can be defined based on a template. However Sollenberger discloses a personalized intranet portal and further discloses a desktop application (Page 1, Paragraph 5). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary in the art at the time of the invention to include a template for the desktop application of Sollenberger with the already existing templates of the modified Anuff. One would have been motivated to have a desktop based on a template to give novel users some guidance thereby improving the user-friendliness.

Claims 4, 35, and 51: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool, method, and a computer readable medium as in the interactive tool of claims 1, 32 and 48 above but do not disclose a desktop is a user-specific view of a portal. Sollenberger discloses that the user can customize sections of the intranet portal (abstract and Figures showing "My Portal"). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention for the modified Anuff to allow the user to customize sections of the intranet portal as taught by Sollenberger. One would have been motivated to allow the user to customize sections of the intranet portal in order for the portal to correspond to the users particular needs and requirements.

Claims 5, 36, and 52: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool, method, and a computer readable medium as in the interactive tool of claims 1, 32 and 48 above but do not specifically disclose providing a third user interface operable to define and/or manage a desktop; and wherein the third user interface can render a preview of the desktop. However Sollenberger discloses a personalized intranet portal and further discloses designing a desktop as defined by the user and previewing the display (Page 5, Paragraph 42-44). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary in the art at the time of the invention to provide an interface for defining the desktop and for previewing in the modified Anuff as taught by Sollenberger. One would have been motivated to include the interface because a user may need to see if the layout selected accommodates the space allotted.

Claims 10,41, and 57: Anuff and Gonzales disclose the interactive tool of claims 1, 32 and 48 above, and further discloses wherein content is part of a virtual content repository (VCR) (Anuff: paragraph 0024) [A collection of web pages that relate to a common topic and re interlinked with one another may form a web site], but do not disclose a third user interface operable to define and/or manage content. Sollenberger discloses the user adding, removing or rearranging modules in that section (Abstract, lines 8-10). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention for the modified Anuff to permit the user adding, removing or rearranging modules as taught by Sollenberger. One would have been motivated to permit the user adding, removing or rearranging modules in order to customize the portal.

Claim 19: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool, as in the interactive tool of claim 17 above but do not disclose a desktop that can be defined based on a template. However Sollenberger discloses a personalized intranet portal and further discloses a desktop application (Page 1, Paragraph 5). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary in the art at the time of the invention to include a template for the desktop application of Sollenberger with the already existing templates of the modified Anuff. One would have been motivated to have a desktop based on a template to give novel users some guidance thereby improving the user-friendliness.

Claim 20: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool, as in the interactive tool of claim 17 above but do not disclose a desktop is a user-specific view of a portal.

Sollenberger discloses that the user can customize sections of the intranet portal (abstract and Figures showing "My Portal"). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention for the modified Anuff to allow the user to customize sections of the intranet portal as taught by Sollenberger. One would have been motivated to allow the user to customize sections of the intranet portal in order for the portal to correspond to the users particular needs and requirements.

Claim 21: Anuff and Gonzales disclose an interactive tool, as in the interactive tool of claim 17 above but do not specifically disclose providing a third user interface operable to define and/or manage a desktop; and wherein the third user interface can render a preview of the desktop. However Sollenberger discloses a personalized intranet portal and further discloses designing a desktop as defined by the user and previewing the display (Page 5, Paragraph 42-44). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary in the art at the time of the invention to provide an interface for defining the desktop and for previewing in the modified Anuff as taught by Sollenberger. One would have been motivated to include the interface because a user may need to see if the layout selected accommodates the space allotted.

Claim 25: Anuff and Gonzales disclose the interactive tool as in claim 17 above, and further discloses wherein content is part of a virtual content repository (VCR) (Anuff: paragraph 0024) [A collection of web pages that relate to a common topic and re interlinked with one another may form a web site], but do not disclose a third user interface operable to define and/or manage content. Sollenberger discloses the user adding, removing or rearranging modules in that section (Abstract, lines 8-10). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention for the modified Anuff to permit the user adding, removing or rearranging modules as taught by Sollenberger. One would have been motivated to permit the user adding, removing or rearranging modules in order to customize the portal.

5. Claims 6, 7, 11, 22, 23, 26, 37, 38, 42, 53, 54, and 58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anuff (US 2002/0029296 A1) and Gonzales (US 20020161603 A1) as applied to Claims 1, 32 and 48 above in further view of Parker (The Complete Idiots Guide to Microsoft FrontPage 2000).

Claims 6, 7, 37, 38, 53, and 54: Anuff and Gonzales disclose the interactive tool of claims 1, 32 and 48 but do not disclose that the interface includes a hierarchy browser and that the portal can be depicted graphically as a hierarchy of the at least one portal resources. However, Parker discloses the FrontPage application window with webpage resources displayed in a hierarchical manner (page 7, figure). Therefore, it would have

been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention for the modified Anuff to depict the webpage (portal) graphically with the application window showing the webpage resources in a hierarchical manner. One would have been motivated to depict the webpage (portal) graphically with the application window showing the webpage resources in a hierarchical manner to be able to view and manipulate the resources at different levels of abstraction.

Claims 11, 42, and 58: Anuff and Gonzales disclose the interactive tool of claim 10 above but do not disclose that the third user interface allows a user to modify the VCR by dragging and dropping graphical objects representing VCR nodes. Parker discloses the drag and drop operation (page 52, "Try Drag and Drop"). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention for modified Anuff to support drag and drop of objects to modify the VCR. One would have been motivated to support drag and drop of objects to modify the VCR because this is a common method in the computer arts field for adding members to a collection.

Claims 22 and 23: Anuff and Gonzales disclose the interactive tool of claims 17 above but do not disclose that the interface includes a hierarchy browser and that the portal can be depicted graphically as a hierarchy of the at least one portal resources. However, Parker discloses the FrontPage application window with webpage resources displayed in a hierarchical manner (page 7, figure). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention for the

modified Anuff to depict the webpage (portal) graphically with the application window showing the webpage resources in a hierarchical manner. One would have been motivated to depict the webpage (portal) graphically with the application window showing the webpage resources in a hierarchical manner to be able to view and manipulate the resources at different levels of abstraction.

Claim 26: Anuff and Gonzales disclose the interactive tool of claim 25 wherein: the third user interface allows a user to modify the VCR by dragging and dropping graphical objects representing VCR nodes. Parker discloses the drag and drop operation (page 52, "Try Drag and Drop"). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention for the modified Anuff to support drag and drop of objects to modify the VCR. One would have been motivated to support drag and drop of objects to modify the VCR because this is a common method in the computer arts field for adding members to a collection.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection as necessitated by the amendments.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sherrod Keaton whose telephone number is 571) 270-1697. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Fri. and alternating Fri. off (EST). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Bashore can be reached on 571-272-4088. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-3800.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SLK
5-31-08

/William L. Bashore/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2175